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ples are I think, these: Absolute freedom to work on any subject desired, a plentiful and never-failing supply of fresh material and a well-filled library always at hand.

At the Naples station are found men of all nationalities. Investigators, professors, privatdocents, assistants and students come from Russia, Germany, Austria, Italy, Holland, England, Belgium, Switzerland and 'America'—men of all shades of thought and all sorts of training. The scene shifts from month to month like the turning of a kaleidoscope. No one can fail to be impressed and to learn much in the clash of thought and criticism that must be present where such diverse elements come together. And through all the changes of life and thought Prof. Dohrn and his staff remain always open-minded, courteous, helpful and generous. Isolated, as we are in America, from much of the newer, current feeling, we are able at Naples, as in no other laboratory in the world, to get in touch with the best modern work.

During the ten months in which I was in Naples there were seven Americans there for longer or shorter periods. At present we have but one table under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution. It is needless to add that one table is insufficient for the demands of American students.

The following list gives the names of those who have occupied the Smithsonian Table: Mr. David Fairchild, of the United States Department of Agriculture; Prof. H. C. Bumpus, of Brown University; Prof. Wm. M. Wheeler, University of Chicago; Dr. Lewis Murbach, University of Michigan; Prof. Herbert Osborn, University of Iowa; Prof. T. H. Morgan, Bryn Mawr College; Mr. Walter T. Swingle, United States Department of Agriculture; Dr. J. M. McFarland, Leland Stanford University. The table has been continuously filled since its establishment, and more applications have been made than it was possible to grant.

Williams College at one time subscribed to a table for a year, and the University of Pennsylvania had also a table for a year; and more recently other Americans have enjoyed the advantages of a table subscribed for by Prof. Agassiz.

Major Davis has again and again in recent years most generously paid for tables for those who have been unable to find other opportunity, and it is notorious that for many years in the past the Americans in Naples have had to ask for foreign tables. It is to be hoped that a better time is coming.

T. H. MORGAN.

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*ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN
MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY.*

THE annual meeting of the American Mathematical Society was held in New York, on Friday afternoon, December 27, at three o'clock, the President, Dr. G. W. Hill, in the chair. Among those present were Prof. Ernest W. Brown, Prof. F. N. Cole, Dr. J. B. Chittenden, Prof. Edwin S. Crawley, Dr. J. W. Davis, Dr. W. S. Dennett, Mr. P. A. Lambert, Mr. G. Legras, Prof. A. Macfarlane, Mr. James MacLay, Mr. C. R. Mann, Dr. Emory McClintock, Prof. James McMahon, Prof. Mansfield Merriman, Prof. Hubert A. Newton, Mr. J. C. Pfister, Miss A. Rayson, Prof. J. K. Rees, Mr. R. A. Roberts, Prof. J. H. Van Amringe, Prof. J. M. Van Vleck, Prof. E. B. Van Vleck, Prof. R. S. Woodward. In the Secretary's report it was stated that the total membership of the Society was 267. The Council and Officers for the coming year are as follows: President, Dr. G. W. Hill; Vice-President, Prof. H. A. Newton; Secretary, Prof. F. N. Cole; Treasurer, Prof. R. S. Woodward; Librarian, Prof. Pomeroy Ladue; Committee of Publication, Prof. Thomas S. Fiske, Prof. Alexander Ziwet, Prof. Frank Morley; other members of the Council, Prof. Henry

B. Fine, Prof. E. Hastings Moore, Prof. Ormond Stone, Prof. Simon Newcomb, Prof. Charlotte Angas Scott, Prof. Henry S. White, Prof. E. W. Hyde, Prof. W. Woolsey Johnson. Prof. B. O. Peirce. The presidential address, delivered by Dr. Hill, was entitled: 'Remarks on the Progress of Celestial Mechanics Since the Middle of the Century.' It will be published in an early number of SCIENCE. Prof. James McMahon read a paper, entitled: 'Note on the separation of the velocity potential (expressed by functions of Laplace and Bessel) into two parts, representing an outward and an inward moving wave.'

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CURRENT NOTES ON ANTHROPOLOGY

RESEARCHES IN SOUTH AMERICAN LANGUAGES.

FROM the rich field of South American linguistics several valuable products have lately been gleaned.

That deserving of the first mention is the narrative of a journey across the Cordillera from Chili eastward, recited in the Huilliche dialect of Araucanian. It was carefully taken down by Dr. Rodolfo Lenz and is printed in the 'Anales de la Universidad de Chile,' Tomo XC. The text, with a literal translation into Spanish, covers 22 pages, and is the first specimen we have, not only in this dialect but in Araucanian, proceeding from the unconstrained lips of a native. It is a model of the manner in which such a piece of work should be accomplished and presented.

The question of the Catamarcan language is again attacked by S. A. Lafone Quevedo in the Anales de la Sociedad Cientifica Argentina, Tom. XXXIX. in an article of 35 pages. He aims to demonstrate from proper names that it is not Kechuan in its affinities. His arguments are drawn from a full investigation of existing fragments of

the tongue, and though not conclusive, make an able plea.

A careful vocabulary of the Guaná, from two independent sources, is published by the Reale Academia die Lincei (Rome), this year, the memoir being from the pen of the artist traveler, Guido Boggiani.

A short vocabulary of the Angagueda dialect of the Choco obtained in June last by Mr. H. G. Granger is edited with comparative words by me in the Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society for November.

To these must be added a valuable contribution on the language of the Akua (Chavantes, Cherentes), by Dr. Paul Ehrenreich in the Zeitschrift für Ethnologie, 1895, Heft IV: and several vocabularies from the Orinoco district, published by Dr. A. Ernst, of Caracas, in the American Anthropologist for October, 1895.

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF WOMAN.

At the August meeting of the German Society of Anthropology, at Cassel, the opening address was by Dr. Waldeyer, of Berlin, on 'the somatic differences of the two sexes.' Its aim was particularly to bring out the contrasts between woman and man, with the purpose of applying the results to the education and 'sphere' of woman. He argued that since a wide collation of measurements and statistics proves that she has a smaller brain, has less physical strength, preserves more traits of infancy and childhood in adult life, and has practically in all times and places held a position inferior to the man, that in our schemes of social improvement these undeniable facts should be respected. The efforts of social democrats and society leaders to establish entire equality between the two sexes and to throw open to woman all the avenues of activity enjoyed by man, he intimates, are mistaken, and will prove failures; and quotes with approval the opinion